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Attorney's Docket No. 33339/235735

IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

In re: Tranchand-Bunel et al.  
International Appl. No.: PCT/FR99/03311  
International Filing Date: December 29, 1999  
For: DETECTING AND MONITORING  
OF HIV INFECTIONS

Attn: DO/US

June 18, 2001

Box PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Abstract:

Please add the following as page 15 of the application:

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DETECTION AND MONITORING OF HIV INFECTIONS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

a The invention concerns a reagent for detecting and monitoring viral infections, caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and its uses for detecting human immunodeficiency. The reagent comprises a mixture consisting of (1) an antigenic peptide coded by the HIV pol gene comprising 60 amino acids, preferably between 20 and 40 amino acids; and (2) a mixture (called a mixotope) of convergent combinatorial peptides, derived from said antigenic peptide.

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In The Specification:

Please add the following as Line 3 on Page 1 of the application, between the title of the invention and the first paragraph:

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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a1